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Report of the Secretary and Treasurer.

FOR THE YEAR OF 1896.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Institute:

I wish to congratulate you upon the steadily growing interest in the Institute, and the fine programme which has been spread before you for the sixteenth annual meeting.

The summer meeting at Pittsburgh, held jointly with the Western Pennsylvania Central Mining Institute, while an innovation upon past meetings, resulted in a most delightful, as well as instructive meeting. Those who were so fortunate as to be present will unite in the wish that the members of the Institute may enjoy many more of the same order. The exchanging of opinions between people engaged in a common calling, who are distributed over so wide a field of operations, is calculated to broaden the views of all who participate.

The paper prepared by Mr. W. H. Jennings on the "Wasteful Methods of Mining Coal Now Being Pursued in the State," developed the fact that this deplorable waste of Nature's provision for man's use, was by no means confined to the State of Ohio. The discussion elicited great interest among the members present, and the members of our sister Institute appointed a committee to confer with the one appointed by our President, with instructions to make an investigation, and report at their next meeting. It is hoped that our committee will take this subject up in earnest, and be ready to present it to the General Assembly at its next meeting.

The industrial depression which has spread over the country during the past three years, has been painfully manifest upon the treasury of the Institute during the year just closed. Many of our members have been without employment during the year, while others were employed at greatly reduced wages, thus preventing them from paying their dues without creating hardships to their families.

At the close of the previous years there was on hand \$144.95. The receipts for dues and initiation fees during the year amounted to \$321.00; for advertisements in the Journal, \$110.00, making the whole amount of funds available during the year, \$575.95.

There was paid for services of a stenographer, \$82.50; expenses of the winter meeting, \$14.00; expenses of the winter ex-



HENRY PRICE, VICE-PRESIDENT.

cursion, \$9.00; printing of the Journal, Nos. 22-23, \$330.00; cuts for Journal and programmes, \$42.90; postage and sundries, \$50.44; salary of Secretary for 1891, \$25.00. These were the total expenditures for the year, leaving a balance on hand of \$22.11.

The membership of the Institute when the writer assumed the duties of Secretary during 1890 numbered seventy-five. Of this number seven had paid no dues for several years and were finally dropped, thus leaving the actual membership sixty-eight. At the close of the last annual meeting, the roll consisted of 132 members, and during the year eight applications for membership have been received. These await your approval, and when elected, the roll of membership will embrace 140 persons.

It is apparent that unless the members who are in arrears for dues pay up, that the expenses for printing the forthcoming Journal must arise from advertisements. Many ways have been resorted to in the hope of increasing the list of members, none of which has met with the hoped for success. The most satisfactory results having arisen from personal solicitation. It is believed that if the members would each solicit such persons as they think would be interested in the work, the list would soon be more than doubled. If those of our members who are physically unable to perform this labor would send the names of such persons to the Secretary, an application for membership enclosed in a Journal would be sent them in the hope of securing their application for membership. This was resorted to in one instance on a list of nine persons, which resulted in securing six members. There is no doubt but that many would be glad to join if they were but personally invited to do so. The Journal which embraced the proceedings for the years of 1892 and 1893 was published during the year. This exhausted all of the funds that were available, and the publishing of the Journal which would embrace the proceedings for 1894 and 1895 had to be postponed until the coming year, when it is hoped that means can be secured to publish a Journal which will embrace all of the proceedings up to date.

The Institute is to be congratulated upon the fact that so far as known death has not invaded our ranks during the year just closed. And, in view of the adverse surroundings and general disaster that has been everywhere present in both the commercial and industrial world, I feel that we have just cause for congratulation on our prosperous condition.

Very respectfully,

R. M. HASELTINE,
Secretary-Treasurer.

The reading of the Secretary-Treasurer's report was heartily applauded, and upon motion approved and ordered filed.

PRESIDENT RAY: I think this report is complete and needs no comment. However, we have four papers remaining on the program for this evening, and any remarks upon the matter contained in either the President's or Secretary's reports may be reserved until the completion of the program.

We will now listen to a paper on "Compressed Air Locomotives," by E. P. Lord, of Pittsburgh, Pa. I take great pleasure in introducing Mr. Lord to this convention.